

C. Remarks

The claims are 127-140, 143, 145, 147-157 and 159-178, with claims 147 and 159 being independent. Claims 127-140, 143, 145, 149-151 and 159-178 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 123-126, 141, 142, 144, 146 have been cancelled. Claim 147 has been amended to include the features of cancelled claim 158. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the claims is expressly requested.

Claim 144 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Examiner has alleged that the specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to lipophilically treat anode coatings.

While Applicants disagree with the Examiner's position, in order to expedite prosecution, claim 144 has been cancelled. Accordingly, this rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

Claims 123-126, 141-144¹ and 146 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite. While Applicants disagree with the Examiner, in order to expedite prosecution, claims 123-126, 141, 142, 144 and 146 have been cancelled. Accordingly, this rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

¹/Since claim 143 has been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention, it is Applicants' understanding that the inclusion of claim 143 in this rejection is an error.

Claims 123-126, 142-144², 148 and 152-157 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,624,902 (de Neufville). Claims 123-126, 142, 146-148, 152-154 and 156 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,645,726 (Hiratani). Claims 123-126, 141, 142, 146-148 and 152-157 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,687,716 (Nagaura)³.

While Applicants traverse the above anticipation rejections, in order to expedite prosecution, claims 123-124, 141, 142, 144, 146 and 158 have been cancelled and the features of claim 158, which the Examiner indicated as allowable, have been incorporated into claim 147. Accordingly, since all claim now at issue contain the patentable features of claim 158, the anticipation rejections should be withdrawn.

Wherefore, Applicants respectfully request that the present case be passed to issue. It is also respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge Applicants' claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our

2/Since claim 143 has been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention, it is Applicants' understanding that the inclusion of claim 143 in this rejection is an error.

3/It is Applicants' understanding that the Examiner erroneously cited Hiratani rather than Nagaura in the Office Action.

address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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